Saturday Gazette.

Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.

WM. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.
CHAS. M. DAVIS, Associate Editor.

OUR PUBLICATION OFFICE is next door to the POST OFFICE in Bloomfield.

THE GAZETTE OFFICE—NOTICE

Frequent inquiries for us at our office at the Centre render it necessary that we should state that our Central Office in Bloomfield is simply or chiefly only a PUBLICATION OFFICE, *regularly open* on Fridays; which is our publication day. The papers are distributed from that office on that day through the mail, or otherwise, to subscribers, and to news dealers. We visit that office daily to get such communications and advertisements as may be placed in our office box, but our editorial room is at our residence on Washington street, where we may generally be found in our Library before nine A. M., and after 4 P. M., and will be happy to see our friends and those who have any GAZETTE business with us. Letters by post or through our office box reach us twice every day.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

paying the $2. subscription now shall receive the GAZETTE, *free of postage*, from 1st October to the end of 1875, or one year and three months being three months for nothing. We hope this liberal offer will prompt many to enrol their names as friends and supporters of one of the best weekly local papers published in this or any other State

THE ELECTION IN NEW JERSEY.

The result, which has astounded both parties, assures to the Democrats an overwhelming victory. Judge Bedle is elected Governor by 15,000 majority over Halsey which is 9,000 better than that received by Parker three years since. Essex County contributed towards this result only 139. The Democrats will probably have five of the seven Congressmen. In the Legislature the Republicans will still have a majority of seven in the Senate, but in the Assembly the Democrats will be 26 in the majority, giving them also 20 majority on joint ballot and insuring a United States Senator of that stripe in place of Senator Stockton. In Essex County the Republican Assemblyman, Teed, is elected by the small majority of 80. Peckwell is elected Sheriff by a majority of 391; Soden, Register, by 481; and Moore, (Republican) Surrogate, by 371.

In most of the other States which held elections this week, the defeat of the Republicans has been decided and in several thoroughly disastrous.

The power which the Democracy has thus gained in National legislation is limited to the House of Representatives and deferred even there till the first of December, 1875, unless an exigency should require an earlier calling of an extra session. Nevertheless, the very strong and decided and widespread expression of the popular feeling must have a decided influence upon the present Congress. It ought to give direction and shape to the Congressional programme the coming Winter, and it will. Everything may be said to depend upon the sagacity and wisdom with which legislation shall be advanced during the approaching session of Congress. The Republican party has had a severe lesson, and if it only proves an apt scholar, it will find that "Experience is the best schoolmaster," however trying and disagreeable the training may be.

We have confidence that President Grant will, on his part, prove equal to the emergency, and illustrate his wisdom, patriotism and fidelity by his works. He will rise above the party, which has been condemned, and assert his independence and his manhood. We still believe in him. Let Congress be united and rise above the sinister aims and interests that have hitherto prompted so many of their questionable measures, and maintain a single eye to the public good and the true interests of the whole country, without fear or favor, and the tide of feeling will turn again to the high-minded men and the reliable and unselfish principles which formerly characterized the Republican Party.

THE NEW PENITENTIARY FOR ESSEX COUNTY.

On invitation of the Board of Freeholders, some two hundred representative men from different parts of the County, with a few distinguished guests from adjoining Counties, on Saturday last, visited Caldwell, for the purpose of inspecting and inaugurating the new Prison which has been in course of construction during two years past and which is now quite completed.

This is undoubtedly the most costly, extensive and substantial, and the best appointed public building in our County, a credit to the Board under whose administration it has been erected and an honor and a benefit to the County and the State.

The Architect, Mr. Paul G. Botticher of Newark, and the Superintendent of construction, Mr. Wm. Cadmus, of Bloomfield, have gained a lasting reputation by this monument of their skill, vigilance and fidelity in so important a trust.

LOCATION.

The site seems to be well chosen. A half mile from the village of Caldwell, on the easy south western slope of the "second mountain," eight miles North from Newark and about the same distance East from Boonton, the edifice stands "grand, gloomy and peculiar," 540 feet above tide water, commanding magnificent views to the South and West, and eliciting the wondering gaze of all beholders. No more salubrious and healthful location could have been selected.

The inspection satisfied all the examiners as to its capacity to accomodate in the main and central building, the various offices for the Directors, the Warden and his family and assistants, the Chapel, the Guard Room, the Store rooms, Kitchen, Laundry, &c.; and in the wing on either side, Ninety prisoners, making one hundred and eighty separate cells, which in an emergency could receive two each, or 360 in all. The edifice is of stone and well-built, reflecting credit upon the builders. The masons were H. H. Clark & Sons; the carpenters, Meeker & Hedden, of Newark; the iron workers, Edwards & Smith, of Newark; the plummers were Zimmerman & Brown of Newark; the gas works by the Hudson Gas Light Company; steam heating by Penn & Van Riper, of Newark; marble mantles, by Passmore & Meeker of Newark.

The supervising Engineer was Mr. Jas. Owens, of Montclair. The reservoir when completed will have a capacity of 1,760,000 gallons.

The total cost of the structures and the 40 acres of land foots up to $244,000 which when the character, extent and completeness of the building, the work and all its appointments is considered, must be allowed to be a very economical expenditure.

After the inspection was completed, the visitors assembled in the Chapel where the worthy President of the Board, Edgar Farmer, Esq., took the chair and calling the meeting to order, read from the word of God the first Psalm and asked Rev. Mr C. T. Berry to offer prayer. He then succinctly stated the history of the enterprise which culminated in this completed work, and invited remarks from gentlemen present, in response to which addresses were made by Judge Titsworth, Judge Condit, Judge Gifford, President Ludlow, Mr. Thebaud, of Union Co. The venerable Dr. Pierson, of Orange, Gen. Halstead, of Hudson County, Judge Guild, Editor of Newark Journal, and Hon. Phineas Jones.

All the speakers commended the Freeholders and spoke in high terms of the work and of the providence of the Board in the outlay, of the taste evinced in the location, and of the perfect adaptibility of the structure to the important and humane purposes for which it is designed. Judge Titsworth and Judge Gifford both expressed their convictions that criminals were frequently more the victims of circumstance than intention, of misfortune than badness of heart. Mr. Thebaud passed a high encomium on Essex County for its energy and liberality in providing her own Reform School, her Lunatic Asylum, and now her Penitentiary. Gen. Halstead replied to Dr. Pierson's fears as to utilizing the labor of the prisoners. He is convinced it can be turned to profitable account and be rendered beneficial to the health and the morals of the prisoners. He suggested as another valuable enterprise for this County, the establishment at Newark, of a Nautical School, for idle, vagrant boys.

A very proper and pleasant conclusion to the interesting affair was a simple but bountiful lunch, prepared under direction of Warden Vermilye, to which the visitors did ample justice.

Bloomfield was represented by Freeholders Langstroth and Cadmus, Councilman Jas. C. Beach, and the Editors of the SATURDAY GAZETTE. Montclair was represented by Freeholders Wheeler and Smith, Councilmen Alf. Taylor and Doctor Love and citizen Pillsbury.

DRY GOODS.—We invite attention to W. V. Snyder & Co's. advertisement on 3rd. page.

N. J. SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.—The seventeenth Annual Convention is to be held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, in Millville, N. J., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 10, 11, and 12.

The recent death of an Ex-Governor of New York, of considerable celebrity in the last generation, Hon. Enos T. Throop, is announced, at the advanced age of ninety years.

ICE.—The first ice of the season, at Montreal, formed during Saturday night, and Sunday last.

There was a heavy, killing frost and ice in Mobile, Ala. and a killing frost in Pensacola, on Monday night.

SILVER PLATED TABLE WARE.—We invite attention to the advertisement of A. J. Towner of 63 Bank street, and of B. J Mayo, 887 Broad street. These establishment are well known as two of the oldest and most reliable in Newark, in the silver plating line.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Our readers will have noticed in our columns the advetisement of Jordan the artist Photographer whose establishment has been known at corner of Barclay and Greenwich streets, New York, for over a quarter of a Century. He has kept pace with all improvements and his gallery is now one of the most interesting convenient and delightful places of resort or rendezvous on the west side of the town, especially for residents of Essex County.

HOME COMFORT.—See the advertisement of the Angel & Blake Manufacturing Co.

Winans & Co., 445 Broad St., Newark, execute all kinds of printing in best style.

THE HARDNESS OF MINERALS AND METALS.—In physics, one body is said to be harder than another when it is capable of scratching the specimen with which it is compared. In mineralogy, in which science the hardness is an important characteristic, ten bodies are usually taken as points of comparison—the softest being termed 1 and the hardest 10. These are: 1 talc; 2, gypsum; 3, carbonate of lime; 4, fluor spar; 5, phosphate of lime; 6, felspar; 7, quartz; 8, topaz; 9, corundum; 10, diamond. Hence, when scientific works speak of the hardness of a body being 6, 8, 4, etc., reference is made to the relative hardness expressed by the list above given.

HOME MATTERS

WEATHER CHRONICLE.

Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre.

Oct. & Nov.	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
At 6 A. M.	46°	59°	36°	33°	35°	27°	28°
At Noon	68°	60°	46°	49°	48°	52°	56°
At 9 P. M.	60°	49°	39°	40°	36°	36°	38°

MONTCLAIR

IN THE AIR ABOVE MONTCLAIR

Six hundred feet and more above
The river's flooding tide,
O'erlooking proud Montclair beneath,
And Bloomfield by her side.

Umbrageous trees our heads defend,
Our brows soft zephyrs fan,
And mossy carpets 'neath our feet,
As we the landscape scan.

We're well repaid for toil and pains
This charming sight to view,
Hills, dales, and woods, homes, streams and fields,
Towns, cities, not a few.

From Eagle Cliff our Eastern view
Successively arrests,
Passaic Hudson and the Sound,
And old Atlan ic's crests.

Enchanting sights that never pall,
Suggestive and delighting,
Of rural, social, business life
From travel long returning

On Nature's seat we rest awhile,
Then tread meandering ways;
We think, we chat, we read, we smile,
And carol childhood's lays.

The topography of the region of country between the Passaic River and the Orange Mountains is quite peculiar. The distance from Newark on that river to the top of the mountain is eight miles gaining an elevation of nearly 700 feet above tide water. To reach this we must first cross the ridge at Roseville at an elevation of 143 feet. It is almost a level plateau, having but slight slope West between Roseville and Watsessing. At Watsessing there is a considerable elevation running North from that depot, forming the Eastern boundary of Bloomfield. On the West of Bloomfield is another Ridge extending North and South for miles and forming the beautiful West-end of Bloomfield, 257 feet above tide water. Between this and the Mountain are three other Ridges. The first is between Maple Avenue and Elm st. in Montclair, and forms the Eastern elevation of this village. The second runs through the center of the town, North and South, having Fullerton Avenue for its back, and is unsurpassed for eligible building sites and residences for the average metropolitan merchant. Elm street, and its continuation Northward, known as the telegraph road, lies midway between these ridges. The third Ridge is Mountain Ave. which is elevated about 500 feet above tide water, and is, no doubt, very properly considered the Court end of the town. The Orange Mountain, known, we believe, in Montclair, as Eagle Cliff, rises from one to two hundred feet higher, and undoubtedly forms the most commanding, accessible and attractive elevation in the United States so near the sea board. It may not be generally known that we have the authority of the Engineer Corps of the Coast Survey for stating that, between the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of Mexico, there is no other land so high as this approaching so near to the ocean. This Cliff or Mountain extends under different local names from Summit or Milburn to Little Falls, some fifteen miles. Our description has respect to the portion which is in Montclair where it bears the name of Eagle Cliff. We have recently surveyed that portion of it which stands between Bloomfield Avenue and Llewellyn Park, with astonishment at its surpassing beauty and magnificence. Having frequently visited Catskill Mountains, Sharon Springs, the White Mountains, and some other notable elevations, we must unequivocally give to Eagle Cliff in Montclair the palm of them all for its splendid views alone, to say nothing of its greater proximity to the metropolis and its superior accessibility. The citizens of Montclair would do well to interest themselves to secure the construction of a promenade and a well made drive on the top of this Cliff. It should become one of the most attractive places of resort any where within easy distance of New York. It must within comparatively few years be occupied with beautiful villas. The establishment of a good road between Bloomfield Avenue at the "Mountain House" and Llewellyn Park, would be a certain precursor of a speedy market for all that mountain property and the erection of fine dwellings and attractive homes.

INTERESTING CONFERENCE.

A conference of Congregational Churches of New York, Brooklyn and vicinity will meet with the Congregational Church of Montclair, on Thursday afternoon and evening, at 3 and 7½ p. m., Nov. 12th. This conference gathers the distinguished pastors of New York and Brooklyn including Rev. Dr. W. M. Taylor, of the Broadway Tabernacle, who, as the President of the Association will preside during the sessions. The discussion in the afternoon we understand, will be on the general subject of the Lord's Supper, with reference, probably, to the bearings of ritualism, and in the evening on the present relations of Science and Christianity, when it may be hoped that Rev. Dr. Storrs will take a prominent part.

There will probably be three or four hundred delegates present and a most interesting and profitable occasion may be anticipated. Visitors will be cordially welcomed.

BLOOMFIELD.

OBITUARY MENTION.—The recent death from scarlet fever of the little daughter of Mr. John M. Webb, a resident, for two or three years past, on Washington Avenue in our town, followed as it was in less than a week by the death of the Mother also, excites our ardent sympathies and heart felt condolence with the bereaved husband and father in this afflictive dispensation of Providence.

ABSENCE.—Mr. Ezra Frissell and wife left Bloomfield last week for the Pacific Coast, intending to spend the winter in Santa Barbara for the benefit of Mrs. Frissell's health. May their utmost desires be realized.

IMPROVEMENTS.—Mr. M. W. Dodd seems to have imbibed the spirit of public improvement, if we may judge by his earnest commencement of the setting back a portion of his road fence on Washington Avenue and the removal of the superfluous earth at that point. He should have due credit for his generosity in relieving the town of the trouble and expense of the removal of that surplus earth. The Avenue is certainly much improved by this long looked for change. It is hoped that he will continue the grand work till it is properly completed from the Railroad to Midland Avenue.

BLOOMFIELD SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION...This Association will hold a meeting on Wednesday evening, November 11th, at the Methodist Church. A very interesting programme has been arranged, and we bespeak a full house. SEC.

MEAT FOR THE TABLE.—Mr. J. W. Lees has reduced the prices of meats, without lowering the qualities. He deserves patronage. Call and see him at the People's Market, Bloomfield Center.

GROCERS.—Martin Brothers, at the junction of Bloomfield and Central Avenues, and Danbecker, opposite the hay-scales, have a good stock of groceries, &c. which they offer at a shade lower prices. "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Mr. Stackpole has recovered from his illness and is at his post again as teacher in the High School. During his absence Mr. Rudolph, of the German Theological school, heard the recitations of Mr. Stackpole's Latin classes.

Citizen R. D. Brower took the prize at the late fair at Waverly for the finest show of Sea-bright bantams, of which he exhibited ten. This was the only prize awarded Bloomfield.

We are happy to announce the safe return from Europe by the steamer Scotia of Mrs. Amzi Dodd and daughter who came under the escort of Mr. Halsey Barrett. We understand the vessel encountered very heavy weather which made the passage far from agreeable.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER.

	Number on Register	Average Daily Attendance	Average Cases of Tardiness	Half-day Absences
High School,	61	44	42	137
Grammar, "	289	205	83	874
Center Primary,	231	201	123	1,145
Berkeley, "	113	88	41	739
Brookside "	69	56	55	463
Summary	691	595	348	3,308

REMARKS.—In comparison with last month's report in the GAZETTE of Oct. 10, we find that the total registered number has diminished *four*, but that of Brookside has increased *fourteen*, and that of the Centre Primary *two*.

The daily attendance has fallen off *thirty-five*, more or less in every school but Brookside, where it has *increased* ten.

The cases of *half day absences* we are sorry to notice have amounted to the astonishing number of 3,308! which, however, is an improvement upon September report of *nine*. Brookside has the credit of doing the best in this respect, having only 463 cases against 572 in September. The Centre Primary stands next, its reduction of absences from last month being 88.

There is much room still for improvement in attendance and we shall hope that our review of the next report will speak more favorably. Which school will excel in this respect then?

BERKLEY UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

An entertainment for the benefit of this school was given on Wednesday Evening at the Westminster Church. The occasion was one of remarkable interest. The programme included a variety of recitations, tableaux and music, skilfully interspersed and admirably performed, mostly by the children of the school trained under the guidance of Mr. J. H. Jenkins the devoted Secretary of the school. Miss Nellie Peloubet volunteered for the occasion two of her exquisite solos on the violin which were performed with remarkable ease and precision.

Our reporter has furnished us his particular notes, which discriminate, no doubt, with artistic appreciation, but which are too elaborate for our space. The whole affair gave great satisfaction and unbounded pleasure to a crowded house, and was a grand success every way, reflecting high credit on those who contributed so judiciously to our delight in the planning of the entertainment and those who executed their several parts in the programme so effectively.

For the Saturday Gazette.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF HOUSEKEEPING.

I was thinking one morning as I sat with my convalescent husband, how much trouble might escape us as housekeepers, if servants would be honest as regards their ability to do. If a servant would not engage to do work she was incompetent to do, how much vexation and trial we would be saved. Katy just then came up to know if I would go down stairs and look at the ice-box, "You never saw it so full Ma'a there is hardly a place for a thimble." A sick room had kept me from my usual oversight and care of pantry and kitchen and a new cook coming just as the sickness did, she had full liberty to display her powers of neatness. I had discharged her that morning, and Katy had begun to "clean up" for another. I went down to find matters worse than I expected. There stood Katy before the ice-box, with arms a kimbo, looking as if she were solving a difficult problem.

"I don't know where to begin first, I'm afraid ma'am if I take out one dish they will all tumble, like Miss Sougs block house." Bring a large waiter I said and we will see what can be done. The following is a list of the greater part of what we took out.

Two ham bones; Ribs of several roasts; Soup bones; Little fried ham, couple fried eggs; Saucer of hash with pieces of liver; Small of dish fried potatoes; Some rice pudding; Part of an apple pie; Half dozen ears of corn; Cod fish cakes; Cheese rinds and dried bits of cheese; Several cans of salmon and lobster, partly used; Stewed Whortleberries beautifully coated with mould; Tea cup with a little lard; Same of dripping; Bit of salt Pork; A covered bowl with uncooked chicken—two second joints and piece of breast; Several small pitchers of sour cream and milk; Two plates of butter, &c., &c.

Why, think you was the chicken saved from yesterdays dinner? I asked, as I straightened up from my devout position, 'She used to save little bits for herself,' she said, "her appetite was poor ma'am." "Its an ill wind that blows no good," I said, I want it for Mr. Mannings dinner to-day. I was wishing it, when the doctor was here, he said I might begin to feed him up a little. Well thought I if this is a specimen of what can be done with an ice box in two weeks, what must my pantries and kitchen need. I went up stairs longing for patience to wait for my daughters to grow up, not as corner stones polished after the similitude of a palace," but as helpmeets for their mother, such helpers that but one servant would be needed for the rough work of our family.

MAUD MANNING.

For the Saturday Gazette.

STUDENTS LIFE AT HACKETSTOWN.

INSTITUTE, Oct. 31, 1874.

MESSRS. EDITORS: In fulfilment of my promise I again drop you a few lines. Our routine course of study, though sufficiently interesting to those of us who are intent on gaining knowledge, is nevertheless monotonous enough in general. We are getting well under way, and O, how beautiful do the fields of knowledge spread out and the hills of science rise up, before us! How rich in sweetness are the droppings of wisdom! How fragrant the odors! What glorious hopes allure us, and what treasures reward our explorations! Our President is, I think, "the right man for the right place." He seems to know just what the students need and most wisely adapts the grade and class for each. He was surely created and then educated for just such responsibility. The different professors too are admirably calculated for their positions and are devoted to their high avocation.

The building, which you thought so complete when you were here is still receiving new touches. A large oven is now being built at a cost of $250 and a fine gymnasium is in course of construction at an expense of $2,400.

A course of lectures by distinguished scholars and orators was recently commenced by Rev. Dr. Simms of Newark, who gave us an eloquent discourse on "the chisel and the brush." Dr. J. I. Boswell follows on "Glimpses of California."

Rev. Dr. Dashiell and Rev. Dr. Vincent are to lecture in turn on chosen subjects.

If with all our advantages, we do not gain knowledge, and acquire good mental habits it will be our own fault.

The SATURDAY GAZETTE is a very welcome visitor every week.

Yours respectfully, L. F. B.

JOTTINGS OF A BLOOMFIELD TOURIST.

THE LINCOLN MONUMENT.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Oct. 25th, 1874.

While at Springfield, last Wednesday, I went out to see the Lincoln monument which drew twenty thousand strangers to attend its dedication.

The city gave to the Monument Association twenty acres in Oak Ridge Cemetery, two miles out of Springfield.

This plot covers a hill which rises about fifty feet above the entrance level, and on its summit is the monument, which is of white granite.

The base is seventy-four feet each way but has a half circle projection in front and rear and is twenty feet in height.

On this is a platform which at its narrowest point is fifteen feet from the shaft to the railing. From the platform rises the central structure, a hollow shaft, which at each corner extends out something like a pilaster forming a separate pedestal and rising full ten feet.

Upon these pedestals are bronze groups representing Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, and Navy, and on the truncated shaft, just above these, facing south, is the erect statue of Mr. Lincoln (also of bronze) with the emancipation scroll in his one hand while the other seemingly rests upon a table. The figure is rather too stout, but otherwise I cannot criticise it. Extending around the monument and just below the groups are shields on which are cut the initials of the several States leaving three blank for future admission.

The shaft, as I have said, does not rise to a point, and it has two tiers of loop-holes or windows.

I believe there is a stair case within its entire height, though none was visible, nor was there any attendant in waiting, so I suppose that it is not meant for public use. The base is composed of two vaults, which are lined with marble of soft colors. In the rear vault is the white marble sarcophagus containing Mr. Lincoln's remains.

At its base is a wreath encircling his well-known words—"With malice toward none and charity for all."

In the other vault there were hung on the wall what I judged to be memorials which are incased in plain black frames.

I speak thus doubtfully, for there was of course no admittance to the vault, and I could but look through the grating of the door. The structure is one hundred and twenty feet high, from base to apex, and cost $250,000.

On the platform over the base are arranged settees, inviting the visitor to linger in contemplation; and though the skill exhibited is well worthy of admiration, yet I doubt not that most who tarry there will think more of the man whose memory is thus honored than of the artist's work.

Said a Kentuckian, sitting by my side "He was the best friend the South ever had, and to-day the majority acknowledge it."

Returning from the Cemetery, I went to Mr. Lincoln's former residence, which is a very plain brown frame house, two stories and a half high, and only about thirty feet front. I believe the party now occupying it is a State Secretary. The city itself possesses some other attractions prominent among which may be cited the Leland's fine hotel and a magnificent State House not yet finished.

MEMORABILIA.

OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW YORK, Nov. 5, 1874.

LITERARY NOTES.

An attractive lot of books is offered by Dodd & Mead, among which are "Strength and Beauty," a series of discussions for young men, by President Mark Hopkins of Williams College; Mr. Stockton's 'What Might Have Been Expected," which had such a successful run in *St. Nicholas;* and a new edition of Prof. Dana's "Coral and Coral Islands," profusely illustrated. "Paul Jones," will be the next volume in Abbott's "Pioneers and Patriots of America."

A POPULAR AUTHOR.

Few people outside of the trade have any idea how many volumes of a favorite author's books are sold every year. The figures seem fabulous, and one can scarcely believe in their accuracy. Take Washington Irving's works, for instance. They are a fortune to the Putnam's. The late George P. Putnam was Irving's chosen publisher, and owned the plates of his works, to which the Putnam Son's have succeeded These plates were leased to J. B. Lippincott of Philadelphia, for five years, and have just come back to the Putnam's. During the first ten years that Mr. Putnam published Irving's works, he sold 575,000 volumes, and paid their author $75,000. Of the "Life of Washington" 42,000 sets were sold, and of the "Sketch Book," 35,000. During the five years that Lippincott had the plates he sold 110,000 volumes. The demand for Irving as for any other classic, is always steady. One of the principal sources of income to the Irving family is the sum they receive annually as their share in the profits from the sale of their distinguished relative's books. One would suppose that after selling so many volumes, the demand would be supplied. It should be borne in mind, however, that new households are constantly being founded, and wherever there are any pretentions to a library, Irving is a necessity. Then again, public libraries are cropping up all over the country, and there is also a large demand for the "Sketch Book," and one or two others for school readers. The late Mr. Putnam, the father of the present firm, was a man who loved books intensely, and knew more about them than most people. He was always planning something new and beautiful in the way of printing and illustrations, and was never more successful than in his "Artist's Edition" of the "Sketch Book." This book is one of the very handsomest ever gotten up in this country and is illustrated with one hundred and fifty pictures. These illustrations were made by Huntington, Gray, Leutze, Hart, Hallows, Darley and others, men who have long been distinguished in the higher walks of art and who would quite scorn book work now. They made just as beautiful pictures in their younger days and the illustrations in the 'Sketch Book" are among the best they have ever done.

A good story is told in connection with this book. Mr. Putnam sold an edition of one thousand copies to Bell & Daldy, a London firm, who merely added their name to the title page, and the book appeared as of their publication. Not long after its appearance in England, Mr. Putnam was in the store of a well known English bookseller, when the proprietor began joking him about the "get up" of American books. "You can't do any fine work over in America," said he. "You do some pretty fair work, but it takes an English house to issue a thing like this, such beautiful printing and wood drawing I never saw," he continued, and going to a shelf took down a copy of the Artist's Edition of the "Sketch Book," which he held triumphantly before its astonished and delighted originator. The Englishman was sensible enough to enjoy the joke, and joined good naturedly in the laugh raised against him.

The Putnam's have the exclusive publication of Bayard Taylor's prose (Osgood has his poetry) and that brings them in a neat little income. By the way, Bayard Taylor has done the generous thing by Dr. Hayes. The two were in Iceland together, and each, unknown to the other, was preparing a lecture upon that country. When Mr. Taylor found out that they were both writing with the same object, he went immediately to Dr. Haye and renounced his claim to Iceland for lecturing purposes.

Among other things for which we are indebted to the late Mr. Putnam, is the first volume of Hood's poems ever issued. They were published collectively in this country long before they appeared in that form in England. Mr. Putnam made his selections from the periodicals in which the poems originally appeared, and his work was well rewarded.

MLLE. EMMA ALBANI.

The Italian Opera season opened in earnest a week ago to-night. Everybody had been waiting for the appearance of Mlle Albani, and everybody went to witness her American *debut*. The Academy of Music was filled as it has not been in many a long day, which proves beyond doubt that the "star" system is what we want. Irving Place was crowded almost on to the sidewalk with carriages, and looked quite like old times. The ladies brought out their handsomest toilets, and gentlemen who had been satisfied with wearing their frock-coats, appeared in all the dignity of swallow-tails and white ties. The lobbies were uncomfortably filled with silk and broadcloth, and before the orchestra had finished the overture every seat in the house was occupied and the boxes overflowed with youth and beauty. By the time the curtain was rung up on the first act all the standing room around the doors was occupied. Miss Cary shown resplendant in diamonds and lace from one of the open boxes, and Mlle Hellbron looked bewitching from a proscenium box.

Mlle. Albani, who had the choosing of the opera for her *debut*, selected "La Sonnambula" for that purpose. The selection might have been better in a musical point of view but was for many reasons excellent. "La Somnambula" has not been heard in this city for a long time. Neither Nilsson nor Lucca appeared in it, and Miss Kellogg only once or twice, and that some years ago. There is not much chance for display in this opera, and a singer has to have a remarkably fine voice to make any impression. The few arias in it are hackneyed to the verge of tiresomeness, but those that fell to Mlle. Albani's part received a new and most agreeable interpretation.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION.

There is enough of the American about Mlle. Albani for us to claim her as a countrywoman, and the moment she appeared upon the stage she was greeted with a hearty round of applause, that said as plain as words "welcome home." A "first night" audience, as a rule, goes to the opera to listen and to criticise, however much chattering may be done on other evenings. The audience at "La Sonnambula" was no exception to this rule. It listened to every note of the *prima donna's* voice, and when she finished the *Come per me sereno*, she received a storm of applause. Not of the "claquer" order, but the true ring of kid gloves. Mlle. Albani's voice is peculiarly rich in high notes. She excels Nilsson in this particular, but falls behind that *prima donna* in the middle and lower register. There is nothing of the charlatan about Mlle. Albani. She does not grasp after false effects, such as the too frequent use of the pianissimo, or the undue prolongation of a high note. Her voice is good enough, and she does not need to resort to tricks to show it off. Like poets, *prima donnas* are "born not made," at least they should be. Mlle. Albani's voice is true nature. It is pure, sweet, flexible, not sensuous, never harsh, and always in tune. Such a voice as we hope to hear among the cherubim and seraphim of the heavenly choir. There is also a seraphic sort of beauty about Mlle. Albani's face. Her expression is one of childlike simplicity, and I doubt if she ever has any but kind words for those who are associated with her. Her reception in "La Sonnambula" was all that could be desired. She was called out three times after every act, and when the curtain fell upon the last scene she was called five times before the foot-lights. The fifth time the "bravas" gave way to cheers. Ladies stood up in their boxes and threw their bouquets at her feet, while the gentlemen waved their hats and shouted. In the lobbies there was but one opinion, and Mr. Strakosch was met with congratulations at every turn.

The triumph of Wednesday night was repeated on Friday. The audience was equally large and equally enthusiastic. The opera in which Mlle. Albani made her second appearance was "Lucia," one of the most beautiful of Italian operas. In this the new *prima donna* showed to even better advantage than she did in La Sonnambula, and achieved a most brilliant triumph.

MUSIC AS A MEDICINE.

A book has recently appeared in Paris with the curious title, "The Effects and Influence of Music on Health and Disease." This singular subject is treated upon at length by Dr. H. Chomet, who argues for his theories as only a Frenchman can. The book created considerable attention in its original form of which G. P. Putnam's Sons will soon bring out a translation in this country. In dealing with music as a therapeutic agent the writer takes health as the perfect accord of the human instrument and music as the vital tonic. Music puts new life into the debilitated frame and arouses men to action. We need go no further than Barnum's Hippodrome to see the effect of music as a tonic. During Weston's recent walks, the band in the ring was regulated by the doctor, who, whenever he saw his patient weary and drooping, would give a signal to the leader. The braying of the trumpets and the roll of the drums acted like a stimulant to the tired man, who would immediately start off at a rapid gate, looking as fresh as though he had just taken a bath. There is more in music than the gratification produced by pleasing sounds, and M. Chomet has agitated a fruitful subject, and his theories will have many enemies and many friends.

HOUSEHOLD ART.

There is no longer any excuse for furnishing American homes like hotels. There are almost as many opportunities for picking up tasteful furniture and bric-a-brac in New York as in some of the cities of Europe. There are firms in this city who have agents across the water constantly on the look-out for rare china and graceful old furniture. Then we have other firms who make a specialty of household art. You tell them about what you want, and they will design and make such articles of furniture as you only imagined to exist in the palaces of the old world. It costs but a trifle more, and often less than that which is sold by the ordinary upholsterer. Sypher & Co.'s on Broadway, is as well known in this city as is Stewart's. There you will find old sofas, cabinets, chests of drawers, bureaus, side-boards, silver ware and china of the oldest and most beautiful patterns. Most of these things are valuable as historical relics. There is Sevres ware that belonged to Louis Philippe with the royal crest and monogram; chairs and china owned by Napoleon III.; old Gobelin tapestry; elaborately carved jewel boxes from Italy; Venetian glass; old Dutch China, old French china with delicate paintings worth $120 a plate; silver sold by impecunious old families; bronzes and brass candle sticks; in fact, to pass through this store you would think

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